

AMBLE URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1970

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH1970To the Chairman and Members of the Amble Urban District Council

Vital Statistics The recently published preliminary report of the Census 1971 shows the population of the town to be 4,745. This compares with 4,900 at the 1961 Census and 4,682 in 1951. The mid-year estimate of population for 1970 was 4,930 and so the continuing outward migration has been greater than realised. The number of births in 1970 was 80, compared with 99 in 1969, and the number of deaths was 56 compared with 51 in 1969. In recent years there has always been a considerable excess proportionately of births over deaths and the static or falling population is indicative of the long-term need in the town of sufficient employment although the rate of depopulation appears to be slower than in most of north Northumberland.

Causes of death approximated to the national incidence and three quarters of deaths occurred in persons aged 65 years or over. There were two infant deaths.

The birth rate was lower than in recent years but was equivalent to the national rate - it has usually been higher. There was again a considerable excess of male births.

Immunisation Last year acceptance rates for primary immunisation of infants appeared to be unsatisfactorily low but the statistics for 1970 show a reversal of this position. A lower acceptance rate had been contrary to the experience of doctors and health visitors and would seem to have been apparent rather than real and due to recent changes in the immunisation schedule and method of recording. Measles vaccination has become acceptable and seems to have proved its value. However, the minor epidemic at the end of the year occurred in the age group which would have been protected had a temporary national shortage of vaccine not curtailed this. This form of immunisation is to be encouraged because, apart from the discomfort of the illness, a proportion of children have serious complications and the

national deaths from this disease in children at present average about forty annually.

Vaccination against Rubella (German Measles) became available for 13-year-old girls. This is a prophylactic measure against possible congenital defects as a result of infection during pregnancy and acceptance was reasonably good. At the time of writing it has now been recommended nationally that vaccination against smallpox need no longer be recommended routinely as part of the immunisation schedule for children. As a result of smallpox eradication programmes the world-wide incidence has fallen dramatically especially in the last ten years - a fall both in the number of cases and in the number of countries reporting the disease. Vaccination for international travel is being required by progressively fewer countries unless the traveller comes from an infected area.

Infectious Diseases The outbreak of infective hepatitis produced 34 notified cases in the earlier part of the year. One case occurred in a food-handler who agreed to discontinue this work during the convalescent period. At the end of the year there was a minor epidemic of measles which produced 34 cases. Nearly all cases occurred in children aged 4 to 8 years and none had records of immunisation.

No cases of food poisoning originated in the town but two convalescent cases required supervision. The infection had been contracted while on holiday abroad which is now a fairly common source of these infections.

Housing The number of housing improvement grants remains disappointingly low and it is to be hoped that current higher grants will provide an incentive possibly in conjunction with improvement areas carried out by the Council.

The housing represented in 1969 as unfit for human habitation - 27 houses contained in the area Smith, Henderson, Leazes, and Newburgh Streets - was again represented in 1970 and was declared a Clearance Area. Comment was made last year on the need for progress because of potential deterioration to the area and this still remains the case.

Ian G.P. Fraser

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

The area of the district was 1,220 acres.

The number of inhabited houses was 1693 and the number of new houses completed during the year was 4.

The estimated mid-year population was 4,930 and this figure was taken when calculating the birth and death rate.

VITAL STATISTICSLive Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	44	33	77
Illegitimate	1	2	3
Totals	<u>45</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>80</u>

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	16.2
Crude Birth Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor (1.03)	16.7
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	4.0

Stillbirths

Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	12
Total live and still births	81

Infant Deaths (Deaths under one year)

Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	25
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	26
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-

Neo-natal Mortality Rate

Deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births	13
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Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate

Deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births	-
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Perinatal Mortality Rate

Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births	12
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Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of Deaths

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births

<u>Deaths</u>	Males	Females	Total
	27	29	56

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the population

Crude Death Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor (1.06)

11.4

12.1

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Males	Females	Total
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine	1	2	3
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	2	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	1	1	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	2	3
Hypertensive Disease	-	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	7	6	13
Cerebrovascular Disease	2	8	10
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	-	2
Pneumonia	3	4	7
Bronchitis and Emphysema	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	1	1
Appendicitis	-	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito-urinary System	1	-	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	-	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1	-	1
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	1	-	1
Totals	27	29	56

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS

Measles	34
Infective Hepatitis	34
Scarlet Fever	1

TUBERCULOSIS

IMMUNISATIONAlnwick U.D., Alnwick R.D., Amble U.D., Rothbury R.D.

(Population 29,970)

Disease	Primary Immunisation			Reinforcing Doses		
	Under 4	4-15	Total	Under 4	4-15	Total
Diphtheria	377	5	382	89	355	444
Whooping Cough	374	2	376	55	81	136
Tetanus	377	19	396	89	405	494
Polio	361	7	368	94	368	462
Measles	239	54	293	-	-	-
Rubella	-	106	106	-	-	-

	Primary Vaccination			Revaccination		
	Under 5	5-15	Total	Under 5	5-15	Total
Smallpox	255	7	262	2	25	27

There were 397 live births in the area during 1970 and the number of primary immunisations of children under 4 years of age (smallpox - under 5 years) have been expressed as percentages of this figure.

Diphtheria	-	95%
Whooping Cough	-	95%
Tetanus	-	95%
Polio	-	91%
Smallpox	-	64%
Measles	-	60%

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

Alnwick U.D.	171
Alnwick R.D.	-
Amble U.D.	-
Rothbury R.D.	-
Total	<u>171</u>

Council Offices,

Amble.

To the Chairman and Members of the Amble Urban
District Council.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for
the year 1970 on the Health Conditions in the District.

The Report is mainly statistical with occasional
comments. The health conditions of the District remain
good, there being no major serious problems affecting
the health of the population.

Yours faithfully,

J.A. RODGETT

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health Ian G.P. Fraser, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.P.H.

Public Officer of Health
Meat and Foods
Housing Officer
Surveyor J.A. Rodgett, M.A.P.H.I.

Assistant Surveyor G. Gibbons

Caravan Sites Superintendent W. Mavin

Clerk/Typist Miss T. Hunn

Offices: Dilston Terrace, Amble

Malabarica Ambala

Telephone *Family* *etc.*

STATISTICS OF DISTRICT

Area, in acres 1,258

Registrar General's estimate of the Resident Population 4,900

Rateable Value at 31st March 1970 £123,938

Product of Penny Rate (estimated) £496

Number of inhabited houses 1,69

Number of Council-owned houses 450

New Houses Completed During the Year 1970

By Local Authority
 By Any Other Housing Authority
 By Private Persons

-
-
4

Action with regard to unfit housesClosing and Demolition

1. Houses demolished in Clearance Areas	Nil
2. Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas	1
3. Houses closed and not demolished	3
4. Any other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included in above	1

Repairs

Number of inspections	15
Statutory Notices	Nil

Works effected by informal action

Water closet cisterns repaired	2
Water closet soil pipes	1
Chimney stacks repaired	2
Demolition Orders revoked after reconstruction	Nil
Houses in Clearance Areas still in use at end of year as temporary accommodation	3

Rent Act 1957

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were made during the year and none are in force.

Housing Act 1969

Applications for Qualification Certificates	Nil
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Improvement GrantsNo. of Separate Houses

Carried out by L.A.

1

Discretionary Grants

(1) Applications submitted to Local Authority during the year	18
(2) Applications rejected	2
(3) Applications approved	16
(4) Approximate average grant per house	£610
(5) Total number of houses approved for grant in the area since the inception of the scheme	295

Tenanted properties

2

Owner/occupied

14

Standard Grants

9

During the YearTotal to Date

(1) No. of separate houses for which grants have been made	10	45
(2) No. of houses so provided with:-		
(a) bath or shower	-	-
(b) wash hand basin	-	-
(c) hot water supply	1	6
(d) water closet	9	43
(e) food store	-	-
(f) sink	1	2
(g) H. & C. water at (a) or (b)	-	-

FACTORIES ACT 1961

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (a)	No. on Register (b)	No. of Inspec- tions (c)	No. of Written Notices (d)	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted (e)
1. Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority.	2	2	-	-
2. Factories not incl. in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	17	15	-	-
3. Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Auth. (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	19	17	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	to H.M. Insp. (4)	by H.M. Insp. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not incl. offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ...	2	2	-	-	-

There is one outworker within the Urban District

Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966

A number of food traders are operating travelling shops from premises within the district and inspections were made to ensure that the provisions of the Regulations are complied with.

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act 1963

Premises Registered During the year : 1.

Registered Premises at end of year : 61.

45 inspections were made during the year. No accidents were reported.

Contraventions remedied - First Aid 2
Washing facilities 1

Inspection and Supervision of Food Shop & Food Hygiene Regulations

Bakeries
Bakers' Shops
Butchers
Cafes
Confectioners
Fish and Chips
Greengrocers
Grocers
Public Houses & Clubs
Snack Bars
Wet Fish Shops
New Food Shops 1
Bakery deleted 1
Butchery deleted 1
Grocery deleted 1

Several contraventions were brought to the owners attention and notified. No legal action was necessary.

Unsound Food (Examined and found to be unfit for human consumption.

Meats	82 tins	Mutton & Offal	124 lbs.
Salmon	19 "	Beef	42 lbs.
Beans in Tomatoes	26 "	Corned Beef	26 lbs.
Fruit	63 "	Ham	6½ lbs.
Tomatoes	155 "	Pork	4 lbs.
Peas and Beans	143 "	Cooked Ham	16 lbs.
Vegetables	2 "	Carcase & Offal	260 lbs.
Soups	3 "	Total Weight	<u>478½</u> lbs.
Puddings	21 "		
Milk	11 "		

Milk Supply

Samples were taken by the County Health Department and of the samples taken all were satisfactory.

Ice Cream

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the District. 11 premises are registered for the sale of Ice Cream and all comply with the standards required.

The following tables gives figures of animals slaughtered during 1970 within the Urban District. All animals slaughtered were inspected.

	Bullocks	Heifers	Calves	Swine	Sheep	Lambs	Goats	Ewes
Number Killed	296	1	-	44	1014	27	-	5
Number Inspected	296	1	-	44	1014	27	-	5
<u>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>								
Whole Carcases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	42	-	-	-	7	1	-	3
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>								
Whole Carcase Condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>								
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The total amount of meat condemned amounted to 12 cwts.
0 lbs., the majority of which was liver affected by fluke and cirrhosis and abcess.

Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations 1958
Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations 1961

There are two slaughterhouses within the District and both comply with the Regulations. No slaughtering was carried out in one slaughterhouse during the year.

Slaughter-Men - Licensing

Nine licences to slaughter or stun animals were issued during the year.

Rodent Schedule

Properties other than Sewers	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1) Number of properties in District	2095	16
2) Total number of properties (incl. nearby premises) inspected following notification	56	7
b) No. infested by (1) RATS (2) MICE	12	16
	22	5
3) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	204	18
b) No. infested by (1) RATS (2) MICE	17	16
	17	5

Refuse Collection

Household refuse continued to be lifted once per week from all properties and twice per week from trade premises. There is no charge for collection of trade refuse. The vehicle used is a 12 cu. yds. dual tip. All kinds of refuse is lifted and special visits are sometimes necessary to lift larger quantities. This is done in an effort to prevent people dumping their refuse on odd pieces of land.

Tipping at the Braids continued until the end of the year.

DisinfestationRodent Control

The Braids tip was regularly treated along with surrounding areas up to the end of the year when Tipping ceased.

Properties, domestic, commercial and industrial continued to be treated for rats and mice free of charge, and in all 285 treatments were carried out.

Treatment for cockroaches and other insects were carried out at a number of properties, all of them being domestic premises.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The combined scheme for Amble and Warkworth is progressing and a Hydrographic Survey was carried out at the end of the year. The results of this survey will be analysed and reports sent to the Ministry by Messrs. Balfour.

The existing system continued to work satisfactorily.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964

There are 2 scrap metal dealers registered with the local authority. None of the dealers have scrap yards within the district.

Agriculture (Safety, Health & Welfare Provisions) Act 1956

There are 16 agricultural holdings in the district and all conform to the standards required.

Water Supply

All premises within the district are on mains water supply. The Newcastle & Gateshead Water Co. are the suppliers, and samples taken monthly have proved satisfactory.

Caravan Sites Act 1960/68

The Council-owned caravan site on the Links was further developed according to the accepted plan and Planning Consent conditions. The standards maintained are in the main higher than those laid down in the Act.

